GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6408
ANSWERED ON:08.05.2000
EXPANSION OF TELEPOHONES NETWORK
HARIBHAU MAHALE;RAMPAL SINGH

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the targets fixed for providing telephone connection in rural and urban areas of the country during 1999-2000;

(b) The achievements made during the said period;

(c) Whether there is any proposal for expansion of telephone network in both the areas of the country during the Ninth Five Year Plan;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the number of new telephone connections likely to be added in the network separately during the year 2000-2001?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR COMMUNICATIONS

(SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR)

(a) & (b) A target of providing 45.5 lakh new telephone connections in rural and urban areas of the country was fixed during 1999-2000. The achievement against this target was 49.18 lakh, in which 12.03 lakh telephone connections was provided in the rural areas.

(c) & (d) It is proposed to make telephone available on demand in the country including rural and urban areas by March 2002 with the private sector complementary efforts of the Government. The Government have enhanced the target of providing new telephone connections during the 9th five year plan from the original proposal of 185 lakh to 222.7 lakh.

(e) During 2000-2001, 57.9 lakh new telephone connections are likely to be provided in the country. Out of this, about 15 lakh lines is likely to be provided in the rural areas.